

CLAIMS

1. A remotely accessible combination weighing apparatus comprising:

a weighing machine constituting the combination weighing apparatus;

a weighing machine control portion for setting an operating condition of the weighing machine and logging an operating state of the weighing machine; and

a communication device for transmitting and receiving electronic information including setting information of the operating condition and/or log information of the operating state via a communication medium.

2. The remotely accessible combination weighing apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the communication medium is selected from the group consisting of a local area network, a wide area network, a public line, Internet, a value added network, a commercial network, and combinations thereof.

3. The remotely accessible combination weighing apparatus according to Claim 1 or 2, wherein the communication device is selected from the group consisting of a modem, a terminal adapter, and a router.

4. The remotely accessible combination weighing apparatus according to any of Claims 1 to 3, further comprising:
means for storing the setting information of the operating condition and the log information of the operating state.

5. The remotely accessible combination weighing apparatus

according to any of Claims 1 to 4, wherein the log information of the operating state is selected from the group consisting of a control set value, an input key history, inter-process communication information, operation error information, and image information.

6. The remotely accessible combination weighing apparatus according to any of Claims 1 to 5, wherein the setting information of the operating condition includes a control set value.

7. The remotely accessible combination weighing apparatus according to Claims 1 to 6, wherein the electronic information has a format of an electronic mail.

8. The remotely accessible combination weighing apparatus according to any of Claims 1 to 7, further comprising electronic information analyzing means for analyzing the electronic information incorporating the setting information of the operating condition in a predetermined format to extract the setting information of the operating condition.

9. The remotely accessible combination weighing apparatus according to any of Claims 1 to 8, further comprising electronic information creating means for incorporating the log information of the operating state into the electronic information in a predetermined format.

10. A combination weighing system comprising:
a combination weighing apparatus having: a weighing machine
constituting the combination weighing apparatus; a weighing

machine control portion for setting an operating condition of the weighing machine and logging an operating state of the weighing machine; and a communication device for transmitting and receiving electronic information including setting information of the operating condition and log information of the operating state; and

a server computer that includes a central communication device for performing communication with the communication device and manages the setting information of the operating condition and the log information of the operating state in the electronic information; and

a communication medium via which communication is performed between the communication device and the central communication device.

11. The combination weighing system according to Claim 10, wherein the communication medium is selected from the group consisting of a local area network, a wide area network, a public line, Internet, a value added network, a commercial network, and combinations thereof.

12. The combination weighing system according to Claim 10 or 11, wherein the communication device of the combination weighing apparatus is selected from the group consisting of a modem, a terminal adapter, and a router.

13. The combination weighing system according to any of Claims 10 to 12, further comprising means for storing the setting information of the operating condition and the log information

of the operating state.

14. The combination weighing system according to any of Claims 10 to 13, wherein the log information of the operating state is selected from the group consisting of a control set value, an input key history, inter-process communication information, operation error information, and image information.

15. The combination weighing system according to any of Claims 10 to 14, wherein the setting information of the operating condition includes a control set value.

16. The combination weighing system according to any of Claims 10 to 15, wherein the electronic information has a format of an electronic mail.

17. The combination weighing system according to any of Claims 11 to 16, wherein the server computer further comprises electronic information creating means for incorporating the setting information of the operating condition into the electronic information in a predetermined format, and

the combination weighing apparatus further comprises electronic information analyzing means for analyzing the electronic information incorporating the setting information of the operating condition in the predetermined format to extract the setting information of the operating condition.

18. The combination weighing system according to any of Claims 10 to 17, wherein the combination weighing apparatus further comprises electronic information creating means for

the server computer further comprises electronic information analyzing means for analyzing the electronic

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